



DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNITY SERVICES/CSBG

Kathy Hochul, Governor  
Robert J. Rodriguez, Secretary of State

Please practice social distancing and wear a mask whenever possible for your safety and the safety of others.

## Agency Highlight: Yonkers Community Action Program



**GOOD DAY FRIENDS**

**Yonkers**  
COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM  
Helping People  
Changing Lives.

We are thrilled to introduce our newest program at the Yonkers Community Action Program.

### THE INVISIBLE WOUNDS PROGRAM

Our Invisible Wounds Program is funded by the Office of Victim Services (OVS), which provides support to teens and young adults between the ages of 13-24 who have witnessed a crime (i.e., shooting, stabbing, domestic violence, robbery, physical assault, etc.) in their community, and/or school.

As their advocate, our focus will help survivors manage trauma, isolation, anxiety, or guilt as a witness of a crime. We encourage them to share their experiences in our safe space by providing some of the following supportive services:

- Advocacy
- Referrals
- Community Support
- Trauma- Focused Therapy

Survivors will have no obligation to report the crime they've witnessed. All services are free and confidential.

For more information, please contact  
Neyling Delgado-Viera  
Office: 914-423-5905 x1013  
Cell: 914-912-8477  
ndelgado-viera@yonkerscap.org

20 South Broadway, Suite 420, Yonkers, NY 10701



## Agency Highlight: Columbia Opportunities, Inc.

Columbia Opportunities, Inc. Board Member and long-time volunteer Berne Bendel will become a full Professor of Education and Psychology at Columbia Green Community College. Berne has been part of Columbia Opportunities since the mid-nineties as a Head Start teacher through now as a board member.

Read the full interview on the website of [Columbia Opportunities, Inc](#)

Thank you to Columbia Opportunities for sharing their Board member Profile with us!

## New York State Division of Community Services Welcomes Alisha Cooper-Wilson

Alisha Cooper-Wilson was born in Central New York, where she attended elementary and high school. She started her career with Civil Service as a New York City 311 Call Center Representative for over 6 years. During that time, she earned an AA in Business Administration. After moving back to Central New York, she worked for Oneida Herkimer Madison BOCES in Utica, NY as a Senior Account Clerk for almost 6 years. Her job duties included accounting tasks for neighboring school districts such as payroll, accounts payable and general ledger.

Alisha has earned a BS in Accounting which included a Certificate in Finance. She started her career with New York State Civil Service as a Tax Technician Trainee with the Department of Taxation & Finance in 2019 at the Albany, NY location. She completed the two-year Traineeship and continued to work for the Tax Department until she accepted the position of Senior Accountant Trainee with the Department of State.

Alisha enjoys her home life, which includes being a wife and mother of two young daughters. Alisha enjoys attending church with her family, as well as planning and attending social events for and with friends.



## It's State Plan Time Again!

Department of State (DOS), Division of Community Services (DCS) is planning and drafting the **2024-2025 NYS CSBG State Plan**. With an anticipated *submission date of August 28, 2023*, DCS is seeking input and comments from the CAA network and partners. As a reminder, there are several opportunities to share your thoughts and comments: (1) attend the DOS sessions during the NYSCAA Regional Meetings, (2) send comments during the public comment period (anticipated June 1, 2023, through July 14, 2023), and/or (3) participate in the Public Hearing (anticipated July 13, 2023).

Here is a link to the current [2022-2023 NYS CSBG State Plan](#), if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions please feel free to email [dos.sm.DCS@dos.ny.gov](mailto:dos.sm.DCS@dos.ny.gov) or contact our office at (518)474-5741.

Visit our website ([Community Services Block Grant | Department of State \(ny.gov\)](#)) for further information regarding Community Services Black Grant (CSBG) and Division of Community Services (DCS).

## CSBG State Plan 2024-2025 Public Hearing

**Thursday, July 13, 2023, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Members of the public are invited to attend either virtually or in person at the following locations:

- ❖ Albany – One Commerce Plaza, 99 Washington Ave, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room 505, Albany, NY 12210
- ❖ Buffalo – 295 Main Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Suite 821, Buffalo, NY 14203
- ❖ New York City – 123 William Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Room 231, New York, NY 10038

Please let DOS know if you plan to attend at: [dos.sm.DCS@dos.ny.gov](mailto:dos.sm.DCS@dos.ny.gov)

## May is Community Action Month

The New York State Department of State Community Services encourages New York agencies to highlight the great work they are doing across the State!

Please send pictures and highlights to [dos.sm.dcs@dos.ny.gov](mailto:dos.sm.dcs@dos.ny.gov)

The Community Action Partnership has released their [2023 Community Action Month Toolkit](#)

## New York State Division of Consumer Protection

Follow the New York Department of State on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for “Tuesday’s Tips” – Practical Tips to Educate and Empower New York Consumers on a Variety of Topics

## NYSCAA & DOS Regional Meetings

The 2023 Regional Meetings will bring together staff from the New York State Community Action Association (NYSCAA), Department of State (DOS), and the CAAs to provide feedback on the CSBG 2024-2025 State Plan, engage in dialogue, discuss best-practices, network with peers, and hear about innovative solutions to common needs across the state.

The Department of State and NYSCAA **encourage staff of all levels and departments to attend!**

All meetings are scheduled 10:00 am- 1:00 pm. Please click the link to register:

### [Register for the New York City & Long Island Meeting](#)

Thursday, May 4, 2023

Host: NYC Department of Youth & Community Development  
2 Lafayette St, 14th Floor, New York, NY 10007

### [Register for the North-Central Meeting](#)

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Host: Oswego County Opportunities, Inc.  
121 Cayuga Street, Fulton, NY 13069

### [Register for the Capital District Meeting](#)

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Host: LifeWorks Community Action  
Saratoga Springs United Methodist Church, 175 Fifth Avenue, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

### [Register for the Western Meeting](#)

Wednesday, June 14, 2023

Host: Connecting Communities in Action  
82 W Hetzel Street, Salamanca, NY 14779

- A tour of the Seneca-Iroquois Cultural Center will be held after the meeting!

### [Register for the South-Central Meeting](#)

Wednesday, June 21, 2023

Host: Greater Opportunities for Broome and Chenango  
44 West Main Street, Norwich, NY 13815

## Division of Community Services Reminders:

### CSBG Advisory Council Meeting

**Thursday, July 27, 2023, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Members of the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Advisory Council will meet in-person at the following locations:

- ❖ Albany – One Commerce Plaza, 99 Washington Ave, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room 505, Albany, NY 12210
- ❖ Buffalo – 295 Main Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Suite 821, Buffalo, NY 14203
- ❖ New York City – 123 William Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Room 231, New York, NY 10038

Members of the public may join in person or via videoconferencing.

Please let DOS know if you plan to attend at: [dos.sm.DCS@dos.ny.gov](mailto:dos.sm.DCS@dos.ny.gov)

### DOS Income Eligibility Memo

#### CSBG Eligibility Guidelines at 200% FPL for FY 2023, 2023 Poverty Guidelines

The Federal Poverty Level (FPL). The language in the current Continuing Resolution allows for the use of the 200% FPL CSBG Eligibility Guidelines until September 30, 2023.

Health and Human Services [2023 Federal Poverty Guidelines](#)

**Please send Newsletter content and submissions to [dos.sm.dcs@dos.ny.gov](mailto:dos.sm.dcs@dos.ny.gov)**

**To be added to our newsletter distribution list, please email [dos.sm.dcs@dos.ny.gov](mailto:dos.sm.dcs@dos.ny.gov)**

## Additional Resources for the CSBG Network

Community Action Partnership - [Resource Library](#)

Community Action Program Legal Services (CAPLAW) - [Resource Library](#)

June 27-29, 2023: CAPLAW 2023 National Training Conference in Austin, Texas

National Association for State Community Services Programs (NASCSPP) - [Annual Report Resources](#)

New York State Community Action Association (NYSCAA)- [NYSCAA Learn](#)

New York State Weatherization Directors Association - [Training Calendar](#)

This publication is supported by the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) of the United States (U.S.) Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$63.9 million with 100 percent funded by ACF/HHS. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by ACF/HHS, or the U.S. Government. For more information, please visit the ACF website, [Administrative and National Policy Requirements](#).